

**Learning the Livelihoods Way:
Understanding Rural Livelihood Sustainability in Northeastern
Cambodia**

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Northeastern Cambodia

Rebecca Dawn Kinakin

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FOREWORD

The Major Project and accompanying Major Project Report were undertaken in partial fulfillment of the degree of Master of Environmental Studies. The area of concentration of this degree, entitled "Rural Livelihood Sustainability," reflects an investigation into the roles and abilities of community-based natural resource management, livelihood approaches, and participatory research methods in facilitating sustainable rural livelihoods. The Major Project forms the practical component of the Plan of Study, and is informed by a theoretical and philosophical understanding of community-based natural resource management, the Sustainable Livelihoods concept, and praxis research methodologies gained through course work, independent studies, internship experience, and various conferences and workshops. This project serves as a strategy for fulfilling the learning objectives to: a) explore and test a livelihoods approach; b) gain insight into the numerous factors affecting rural life in the Cambodian context; and c) employ various participatory research methods to learn about livelihoods. Livelihoods research considers the workings and dynamics at various scales, therefore the Major Project and Report reflect process, activities, lessons learned, and implications of research largely at a community level, while the accompanying photostory posters provide additional detail and insight at the individual and, associatively, household scales.

Any errors or misrepresentations in research or reporting are the author's alone.

(NOTE: All appendices written and produced by the author.)

Table of Contents

Acknowledgements

Foreword

| | |
|--|-----------|
| INTRODUCTION..... | 1 |
| 1. An Overview of the Cambodian Context..... | 1 |
| 1.1 History..... | 1 |
| 1.2 Present Day Development Context..... | 4 |
| 1.2.1 Politics and Economy..... | 4 |
| 1.2.2 Rural Development Issues..... | 4 |
| 1.2.3 Community-Based Natural Resource Management..... | 4 |
| 1.2.4 Mondulkiri Province: Fieldwork on the ‘Fringes’..... | 6 |
| 2. Sustainable Livelihoods (SL)..... | 7 |
| 2.1 What is a ‘Sustainable Livelihood’?..... | 7 |
| 2.2 What is a SL Approach?..... | 7 |
| 2.3 How is a SL Approach Different?..... | 7 |
| 2.4 SL Frameworks..... | 9 |
| 2.4.1 Livelihood Context..... | 10 |
| 2.4.2 Livelihood Resources..... | 10 |
| 2.4.3 Institutions..... | 11 |
| 2.4.4 Livelihood Strategies..... | 11 |
| 2.4.5 Livelihood Outcomes..... | 11 |
| 2.5 How Can a SL Framework Be Used?..... | 12 |
| 3. Methods and Methodology..... | 12 |
| 3.1 Participatory Research (PR)..... | 13 |
| 3.1.1 Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA)..... | 13 |
| 3.1.2 Village Workshop..... | 14 |
| 3.1.3 Photostories..... | 14 |
| 4. Main Activities..... | 15 |
| 4.1 Scoping..... | 15 |
| 4.2 Team Selection and Training..... | 15 |
| 4.3 Site Selection..... | 15 |
| 4.4 Participatory Rural Appraisal..... | 16 |
| 4.4.1 Participatory Village Resource Use Mapping..... | 16 |
| 4.4.2 Village Walk..... | 16 |
| 4.4.3 Historical Matrix..... | 16 |
| 4.5 SL Village Workshop..... | 17 |
| 4.5.1 Day One Summary..... | 18 |
| 4.5.2 Day Two Summary..... | 18 |
| 4.5.3 Day Three Summary..... | 18 |
| 4.6 Photostory Production..... | 18 |
| 4.7 Evaluation..... | 19 |
| 4.8 Follow-up and Reporting..... | 19 |

| | |
|---|-----------|
| 5. Lessons Learned and Implications..... | 20 |
| 5.1 Methods For Learning About Livelihoods..... | 20 |
| 5.1.1 PRA Tools..... | 20 |
| 5.1.2 Village Workshop..... | 21 |
| 5.1.3 Photostories..... | 22 |
| 5.1.4 Some Additional Comments..... | 23 |
| 5.2 Implications of a Livelihoods Approach for CBNRM in Cambodia..... | 24 |
| CONCLUSION..... | 27 |
| References..... | 29 |

LIST OF FIGURES

| | |
|--|----|
| Figure 1: Regional map of Southeast Asia..... | 1 |
| Figure 2: Map of Cambodia and Sre Y field site..... | 3 |
| Figure 3: Linking community empowerment and ecosystem conservation goals through CBRM..... | 5 |
| Figure 4: Map of Sre Y Village field site..... | 8 |
| Figure 5: DFID's Sustainable Livelihoods framework..... | 9 |
| Figure 6: An alternate Sustainable Livelihoods framework..... | 10 |
| Figure 7: SL framework components and corresponding research methods and activities..... | 12 |
| Figure 8: Overview of the SL workshop agenda..... | 17 |
| Box 1: Livelihood assets..... | 11 |

APPENDICES

| |
|--|
| Appendix 1: Fieldwork Report (PRA) |
| Appendix 2: Sustainable Livelihoods Workshop Proceedings |